

1/28/2011 - WEEK IN REVIEW – FEDERAL COURT ACTIVITY **United States Attorney's Office, Northern District of Indiana**

Hammond, Indiana - The United States Attorney's Office announced:

Charged in a third superseding indictment returned on January 20, 2011, were Richard T. Loveless, 49, of Gary, Indiana, and Jeffrey Youngheim, 44, of Portage, Indiana, in the case *US v Chandler et al.* Loveless and Youngheim are both charged with one count of mail fraud, and one count of wire fraud. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This case has been assigned to and will be prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jill Trumbull-Harris.

Alice Willis, 46, of Merrillville, Indiana, was charged in an indictment returned in October, 2009 and unsealed this week, with two counts of theft of mail and one count of access devise fraud. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the United States Postal Inspection Service. This case has been assigned to and will be prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Toi Houston.

Wayne Wigglesworth, 70, of Valparaiso, Indiana, pled guilty before Senior Judge James Moody to count one of an indictment charging him with coercion and enticement of a minor to engage in sexual activity. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Office of Homeland Security Investigations, and the Chicago Police Department . This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jill Trumbull-Harris.

David Castillo-Rendon, 39, of Lafayette, Indiana, pled guilty before Senior Judge James Moody to counts one and two of an indictment charging him with receiving child pornography, and illegal reentry. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Office of Homeland Security Investigations, and the Lafayette Police Department . This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jill Trumbull-Harris.

Aaron Cooper, 19, of Chicago, Illinois, pled guilty before Judge Joseph Van Bokkelen to counts one and two of an indictment charging him with stealing a firearm from a licensed dealer, and use of a firearm during the commission of a federal crime of violence. Sentencing has been set for 4/20/11. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, and the Gary Police Department. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney David Nozick.

Bonifacio Trevino, 29, of Whiting, Indiana, was sentenced by Senior Judge Rudy Lozano to 37 months imprisonment and 3 years of supervised release after pleading guilty to count seven of a superseding indictment charging him with conspiracy to distribute narcotics. This case was the result of an investigation by the Drug Enforcement Administration HIDTA Task Force. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jacqueline Jacobs.

Fort Wayne, IN - The United States Attorney's Office announced the following activity in federal court:

Antre Starks, 25, of Fort Wayne, Indiana, pled guilty before Magistrate Judge Roger Cosbey to count one of an indictment charging him with making false statements in the purchase of a firearm. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, and the Fort Wayne Police Department. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Tina Nommay.

Talitha Hutchins, 32, of Fort Wayne, Indiana, pled guilty before Judge Theresa Springmann to count six of an indictment charging her with maintaining a drug house. Sentencing has been set for 5/2/11. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Fort Wayne Police Department, the Allen County Police Department, the Indiana State Police, and the Internal Revenue Service. Also participating were the United States Marshal's Service, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the Drug Enforcement Administration and the IMAGE Drug Task Force. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Anthony Geller and Tina Nommay.

David Brown, 40, of Fort Wayne, Indiana, pled guilty before Magistrate Judge Roger Cosbey to counts one and two of an indictment charging him with receipt of material depicting minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct, and possession of material depicting minors engaged in sexually explicit material. Sentencing has been set for 4/26/11. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation Cybercrime Task Force. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Lesley Miller Lowery.

Rodrigo Cerrato, 42, of Fort Wayne, Indiana, pled guilty before Magistrate Judge Roger Cosbey to count one of a superseding indictment charging him with conspiracy to distribute Methamphetamine. Sentencing has been set for 5/2/11. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the Drug Enforcement Administration. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Robert Trgovich.

Benjamin VanAllen, 31, of Fort Wayne, Indiana, pled guilty before Magistrate Judge Roger Cosbey to count one of an indictment charging him with conspiracy to distribute Methamphetamine in the case *US v Rosas et al.* These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Gang and Narcotics Enforcement Team, Indiana State Police, Allen County Police Department, and the Fort Wayne Police Department. This case has been assigned to and will be prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Anthony W. Geller and Tina L. Nommay.

James Morris II, 32, of Butler, Indiana, was sentenced by to 60 months imprisonment and 4 years of supervised release after pleading guilty to count four of an indictment charging him with distribution of Methamphetamine. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Gang and Narcotics Enforcement Team, Indiana State Police, Allen County Police Department, and the Fort Wayne Police Department. This case has been assigned to and will be prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Anthony W. Geller and Tina L. Nommay.

South Bend, IN—The United States Attorney's Office announced:

Lisa Elie, 43, of Elkhart, Indiana, pled guilty before Judge Robert Miller, Jr. to count one of an indictment charging her with theft of government funds of the Social Security Administration by converting benefits meant for a relative to her own use. Sentencing has been set for 4/28/11. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the Social Security Administration, and the Indiana State Police. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney John Maciejczyk.

Franklin Hibshman, Jr., 22, of Elkhart, Indiana, pled guilty before Judge Robert Miller, Jr. to count one of an indictment charging him with being a felon in possession of a firearm. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Frank Schaffer.

Jeffrey Carpenter, 26, of Mishawaka, Indiana, was sentenced by Judge Robert Miller, Jr. to 115 months imprisonment and 3 years of supervised release after pleading guilty to count three of an indictment charging him with being a felon in possession of a firearm. Carpenter admitted in his plea agreement that he was a convicted felon (prior convictions for criminal recklessness and attempted theft). He also admitted that in April and May 2010 he possessed a firearm, specifically, a .25 caliber pistol. This case was the result of an

investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Donald Schmid.

The specific sentence in each case to be imposed upon conviction will be determined by the judge after a consideration of federal sentencing statutes and the Federal Sentencing Guidelines.

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